*i* his own library into the night.' Boxes of his still survive which bear testimony to this untiring 5what desultory industry —a chaos of fragmentary in small and crowded penmanship, no scrap of that came to hand and had an unused corner either too high or too low to serve his need. Even-the desire of composition again came over him. 1812 to 1822 the press abounded with his works. *ilamities of Authors,* his *Memoirs of Literary Con*-!/, in the manner of Bayle ; his *Essay on the Literary tier,* the most perfect of his compositions, were pters in that History of English Literature which a commenced to meditate, and which it was fated never be completed.' There is evidence that >efore his marriage the idea of this monumental lad occurred to him : it became no doubt the ; inspiration of his studies and gave to them er unity of purpose they possessed; and it hovered his eyes for forty years till blindness overtook But his activity was by no means confined within unds of this great design. His early work, the *ties of Literature,* was cosmopolitan rather than vely English in its range, and as the public con-to buy and read it, the author was eventually 1 to begin a process of revision and enrichment vhich it grew in time to its final ample dimensions, snlarged form it more than retained the favour it ready won, and remains to this day the most : of his writings. Even more deserving of notice iography of his son are his excursions into the of political history. His literary studies had led i to an *Inquiry into the Literary and Political ter of James the First,* in which he strove to vindi-e reputation of that monarch against the strictures •orians dominated by the "Whig tradition; and, ig the same line of study, he gave five years of > to an elaborate and ambitious treatise intended :orm a similar office for James's successor. The